

The Southwester

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June 2000

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FREE!

EPA To Quit S.W. In 2002

Letter to the Southwester from Sidney Bresler, VP, WMC Mgt.

Unofficially, the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency intends to vacate the Waterside Complex between May and September, 2002.

Reportedly, the General Services Administration has no plans to re-tenant the space. WMC Management Company, Inc. will continue to operate the facility.

With the impending vacancy, WMC Management Company, Inc., on behalf of the owners of the Waterside Complex, engaged a major national real estate consulting firm to assess options for the Complex. Several different redevelopment scenarios have been proposed and each is being analyzed to determine financial and market viability. ■

Sidney Bresler,
Vice President,
WMC Management Company, Inc.

Community Planning Meeting With D.C. Rec.

By Rick Bardach

The D.C. Dept. of Recreation and Parks has a relatively new director, Robert Newman, and deputy director, Neil Albert. They have stated in two separate presentations at recent Jack Evans Task Force meetings that they are working hard to improve and expand quality services throughout the city. The near Southwest community, of course, supports this goal but we have all heard this rhetoric before, and it is up to us to ensure that our needs are met.

The Recreation Department welcomes input and thus the first of what hopefully will be a series of planning sessions has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 23, at 7 pm at King-Greenleaf Recreation Center, 203 N St. S.W.

In addition to an overall presentation and discussion of recreation programs in Southwest, we will also learn details about the proposed Fiscal Year 2002 plan to renovate and enclose the Randall Swimming Pool, located at South Capitol St. and I (Eye) St. S.W., which is budgeted to cost \$4.4 million. This is the first major capital expenditure proposed for Southwest in many years. We need to be sure the community supports this proposal and that all of our suggestions and objections are heard and seriously considered.

The Southwest Neighborhood Assembly Board believes that this is a critical meeting and thus it has cancelled its May general meeting in deference to this planning meeting with the Recreation Dept. All community members who believe it is our responsibility to better meet the needs of our children, youth and families are strongly urged to attend.

Let your voices be heard! ■

Tall Ships Come To Waterfront In May and June

The sailing vessels The Niagara, from Erie, Pennsylvania, and The Pride of Baltimore will be berthed at the municipal pier at 6th & Water St. S.W., on goodwill tours to the Nation's Capital. The public is invited to board and tour the ships to see what ocean travel was like between 100 and 200 years ago.

On Memorial Day weekend, Friday-Sunday, May 26-28, the U.S. brig Niagara will visit. It is a replica from the Battle of Lake Erie at Put-in-Bay, Ohio, during the War of 1812 when Commodore Oliver Hazard Perry, under the battle flag inscribed "Don't Give Up The Ship" defeated the British.

During the week of Sun., June 4, to Sun., June 11, the Pride of Baltimore, replica of a 19th Century Baltimore Clipper topsail schooner, will be open to the public at the municipal pier 6th and Water St. S.W.

Visiting hours for each ship will be announced. ■

200 Boats To Parade In S.W.

The annual blessing of the fleet will bring 200 boats from as far away as Chesapeake Bay to parade along the Washington Channel between East Potomac Park and the S.W. Waterfront at 1 pm, Sunday, May 21..

Water cannons of the D.C. fire boat will shoot water high in the air at the head of the parade. Pleasure craft, commercial boats and government vessels will join in. Spectators will have excellent views from the S. W. Waterfront or East Potomac Park.

The Washington Waterfront Association will award prizes for the most creative boat decoration. ■

Summer Youth BB Starts

High speed competitive basketball will be featured evenings at King-Greenleaf field at Canal St. and M St. S.W. as the summer youth league gets underway. For more pictures see p. 6. ■



The tall ship The Pride of Baltimore will be open to the public during the week of June 4 - 11, tied up at the Harbor Patrol pier at 6th and Water St. S.W. (a block from 6th and Maine Ave. S.W.). Photo by Bill McAllen Photography.

Air Crash Board Using L'Enfant Movie House

A new board room and conference center have been made out of the abandoned movie house in the basement of L'Enfant Plaza. The federal agency that investigates all civil aviation accidents and some railroad, highway and marine accidents - the National Transportation Safety Board - has had its headquarters in the plaza since 1991. It now will have a 354-seat auditorium and three conference/training rooms for public proceedings and hearings.

Examples of the board's duties - it has issued rules on tests for car air bags, but declined to investigate the recent fire on Washington D.C.'s METRO, leaving that to local officials. ■



A movie house on the garage level of L'Enfant Plaza has been converted into a 354-seat auditorium, three conference/training rooms and a press room for the National Transportation Safety Board.

HELP!

The Southwester needs volunteers to get stories and to help put out the paper each month.
Phone Dale MacIver 554-8560.

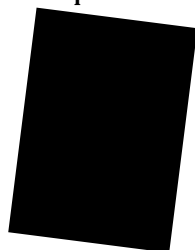
S.W. on the web
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Drop off your stories by **Wed. June 7** in the box behind the counter at the SW Library, 3rd and I or the desk at 700 7 St SW, Box 130.

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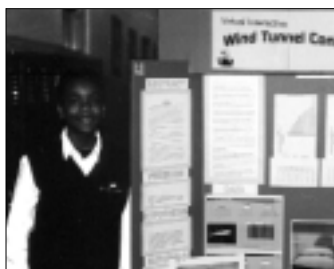
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Chad Smith with his science project.

Chad Smith & NASA = 1st Place

Jefferson Jr. 8th grader Chad Smith won first place in the computers category of the D.C. Citywide Science Fair with a project using NASA's Virtual Interactive Classroom (VIC). He also visited a NASA research facility in Cleveland to complete the project.

Jefferson Jr. High hopes to install a VIC computer lab with support from NASA. VIC enables a student in D.C. to perform live experiments in Ohio.

Chad appreciates all of the help that he received from NASA, COMSAT, Jefferson science teacher, Mariel York, science teacher, Phyllis Harvey-Buschel, engineer David York, Mrs. Evelyn Holm, Jefferson's School-to-Careers Counselor, and from his mother. ■



MPD Police Chief Charles Ramsey poses with Jihad Basir, who sports a police button for children on his collar.

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Southwest Community Calendar

May 19-21	Fr-Sun	"Near SE" Anacostia Waterfront Workshop (see times in story on p 7) Van Ness Elementary School 5th & M SE
May 21	Sun	Blessing of the Fleet & Parade of Boats 1pm Washington Channel between East Potomac Park & SW Waterfront
May 22	Mon	SWNA is not meeting tonight but hopes everyone will be at tomorrow night's community meeting on recreation
May 22	Mon	Molly's Salon 7 pm Arena Stage discussion on "All My Sons" - Reservations 488-3300
May 23	Tues	Community meeting on Recreation Dept. plans 7 pm King-Greenleaf Rec Center, 203 N St. S.W.
May 24	Wed	Fil-Am Toastmasters Club 6:45 pm SW Branch Library, 920 Wesley Pl, SW
(also June 14)		
May 25	Thurs	NARFE 12 noon SW Branch Library, 920 Wesley Pl, SW
May 26-28	Fri-Sun	Tall Ship Niagara open to public some hours
June 2	Fri	At Municipal Pier (Harbor Patrol) 6th and Water St. SW
(also June 16, 23, 30)		
June 3	Sat	Internet and WorldWide Web training for adults 10am-1pm S.W. Branch Library 920 Wesley Pl SW
June 10	Sat	Police Service Area Walkathon 10am - 12 noon Start at 240 M St SW, Thelma Martin Room
(also June 17)		
June 5	Mon	Komen Toastmasters Club 10 am SW Branch Library 920 Wesley Pl, SW
June 6	Tues	SWNA Board 7 pm Waterside Mall office
June 7	Wed	1st Dist. MPD Citizens Advisory Council 7 pm DCPD 415 Fourth St., SW Community Room
June 8	Thurs	Computer Basics for Adults (also June 14, 21, 28) 6pm - 8:30 pm SW Branch Library 920 Wesley Pl SW
June 12	Mon	Southwest Remembered - viewing of film 6 pm MLK Library, 901 G St NW, Room 307, Washingtonian Div.
June 14	Wed	Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D 7 pm Westminster Presbyterian Church, 4th & I SW
June 15	Thurs	SW Chamber Music Players 7:30 pm St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, 6t and Maine Ave.SW
June 15	Thurs.	AARP Boat trip 11am Spirit ships 6th & Water St. S.W. Reservations 554-5503.
		Police Service Area 110 7 pm River Park Community Room 1301 Delaware SW

Please submit calendar items for the next issue by Wed. June 7 to the Southwester Office 554-8560 (C.W. Hargrave is out of town that week).

River Park Friends

*dale this ad is a
pdf. i can't place it
in the document.*

Police Meet With Community June 3 & 15

Lt. Lewis Douglas of Police Service Area 110 has announced a community walkathon and a meeting with the community. The walk about is Saturday, June 3 from 10 am to 12 noon, starting at 240 M St. SW.

The meeting is at River Park's South Commons Room, 1301 Delaware Ave., SW. at 7 pm, Thurs., June 15.

TV Channel Fox 5 will attend the June 15 meeting to hear "how the community faces its problems through unified action and purpose."

Telephone numbers are: Rich Archey, 484-5580 for the June 15 meeting and Lt. Douglas, 727-4610. ■



Lt. Douglas with a group on a recent walk about.

Southwest Photographer Featured

By Margaret Feldman

Many photos of old Southwest taken by SW resident Joseph Owen Curtis are part of an exhibit called "Eye of the Beholder, Washington D. C." in the A-level galleries, G St. window, 2nd floor exhibit hall and 3rd floor Washingtonian Division at the MLK, Jr. Library at 9th and G St. N. W. on display during May and through June 25. The exhibit is free and is open during regular library hours. Brochures are available at the SW Branch Library.

The film Southwest Remembered will be shown at the MLK library at 6 pm, June 8, with Mr. Curtis and Delores Smith, the film's producer, on hand. ■

S.W. History Group Seeks Photos

Southwest residents with photos or clippings that could be used in a display in Waterside Mall late in June should contact the chair of the new S.W. History Group, Margaret Feldman, at 554-0242 or mefeldman@aol.com.

Housing complexes can arrange also to see the video Southwest Remembered, by contacting Ms. Feldman. ■

Washington Video

(new ad in
folder)

Westminster
Church
ad in folder

Easter Parade 2000 In Southwest



Easter egg hunts were staged in Southwest by the Southwest Neighborhood Assembly at King-Greenleaf field (shown in the upper left), by St. Dominic's Catholic church and others. The Southwester's cameras also caught glimpses of Easter finery and just plain fun on that day.

Jazz In S.W. Hits 75th Fri. Straight

Friday Night Jazz in S.W. at Westminster Presbyterian Church on 4th and I Eye) St. will present its 75th continuous week of \$5 concerts on June 30.

Popular jazz sax player Antonio Parker and a sextet will perform, and the regular fish and chicken dinners will be on sale.

In the year and a half since the series began, "Earl Banks Lettumplay", as coordinator, has showcased more than 200 jazz musicians. The audience has grown from 40 or 50 to 150 and more. ■

Chamber Music Continues in SW

Popular clarinetist Jerry Schwarz will be featured in the Wed. June 14 concert of the Southwest Chamber Music Players at 7:30 pm at St. Augustine's Episcopal Church, Maine Ave. and Sixth St. S.W.

He will be joined by his two daughters, soprano Anna and cellist Miriam, together with Nicholas Fobe, viola, and Graham Down and Elizabeth Dyson, piano. The program will include works of Beethoven, Rachmaninoff, Bruch, and English composers Ralph Vaughan Williams and Arnold Cooke.

The free concert will be followed by a small reception. See the website for the chamber players, <http://listen.to/Southwest>. ■



Michael Thomas, his alto sax, and a jazz sextet will be featured in Jazz Night in Southwest at 4th and I (Eye) St. S.W. on Fri., June 30, from 6 to 9 pm. It will be the program's 75th straight weekly concert.

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UPO Hosts Job & Training Fair

Over 100 job seekers took part in an employment and training fair put on by the "Futures In Work" program of The United Planning Organization (UPO) on April 18 in the UPO offices on the second floor of the Waterside Mall.

Six companies did on-site interviews for current job openings, testing was given for Census jobs and work experience positions were offered to individuals interested in on-the-job learning and practice.

UPO case managers worked with customers having such needs as childcare while working or referral to vocational education. During the fair a special room was stocked with videos and snacks for children.

Gladys Mack, deputy executive director of UPO used the letter E in SUCCESS to energize the room full of attendees. E is for Energy to keep going, she said. E is for Education and learning from each opportunity. E is for Ego to believe in yourself and do what you decide to do. E is for Environment - what's going on around you.

Linda Smith, a former participant in the program and a current employee of Hercules Real Estate, encouraged the group with her stories of how much she likes getting per paycheck, taking initiative and getting a raise, and especially, having her children proud of her work. She reminded us all, though, that it's not easy, but it's worth it.

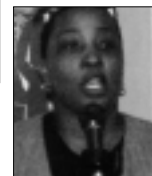
Throughout the day participants were offered snacks, Census literature and books. A Census bag of gifts to take home and name drawings for special gifts added to the fun

that job seekers seemed to be having.

UPO's "Futures in Work" program aims to bridge the gap between unemployment and employment. It is conducted under contract with the D.C. Department of Human Services and in collaboration with Lockheed Martin IMS. ■



Gladys Mack, deputy executive director of UPO, talked about four E's to Success.



Linda Smith, from Hercules Real Estate and a former program participant, reminded audience members to do their best and take initiative.



Access Worldwide, one of six employers, spent the day in on-site job interviews.



Participants tested for Census jobs in morning and afternoon sessions.



Staff and employers had lunch with DHS contract monitor, Bobby McManus (center front).

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Civil War Reenactor At AARP

A soldier of Massachusetts Battalion B from the movie "Glory", who joins others in reenacting battles from the Civil War, came to the monthly meeting of AARP at St. Matthews Lutheran Church in authentic Civil War uniform - bayonet and all. ■

Adults Can Learn Computer Basics In 2 or 3 Hours

Free classes for adults on the second floor of the Southwest Branch Library will have you using a mouse or getting on the Internet even if you've never faced a computer screen before.

Any Wednesday evening in June from 6 pm to 8:30 pm you'll get hands-on experience with a desktop computer. Most Friday mornings in June from 10 am to 1 pm you'll be on the Internet, using e-mail and searching the World Wide Web.

Registration is required. Phone 727-6976.

Pick a date:

Computer Basics - 6 pm to 8:30 pm Wed., June 4, 14, 21, or 28.

Internet and World Wide Web - 10 am - 1 pm, Fri., June 2, 16, 23, or 30. (All D.C. branch libraries are closed Fri., June 9.)

The computer center at the S.W. Branch Library is run by the Computer Assisted Literacy Center (CALICO), which also gives GED training, including pre-GED testing, and basic literacy training for adults.

The S.W. Branch Library is located at Wesley Place and K St. S.W. (near 3rd and I). ■

Stop Tour Bus Pollution

Neighbors can make a phone call to the D.C. Dept. of Public Works when they observe tour buses parked at the curb emitting noxious fumes while waiting for their passengers to return. Just call 541-6031 (Parking Services) and ask for a dispatcher.

The law requires that drivers turn off their motors after 3 minutes. A citation can be written for \$500 if a driver violates the law.

Waterfront restaurant owners advise tour bus operators of the law, but they are sometimes ignored. ■

Scholarship Applications Due

May 31 is the deadline for submitting applications for the S.W. college scholarships to the S.W. Library, but with some colleges still in session the S.W. Scholarship Committee has extended the deadline to June 15. Forms are available at the S.W. Library, Wesley Place and K S.W. and have also been sent to some high schools to the attention of college counselors. Any student who lives in zip code area 20024 may apply.

The committee's mail solicitation is bringing in generous contributions from residents of Southwest. Thank you very much.

Any additional checks can be mailed to the Southwest Scholarship Committee, P.O. Box 70481, Washington, D.C. 20024-0481. ■



Betty Brown

Stroke Is A Brain Attack - Call 911

By Betty Brown

Brain attack is the leading cause of disability and the third leading killer of all Americans.

You can learn more at a Stroke Awareness Institute at the 4H Center, 7100 Connecticut Ave. N.W. (near Chevy Chase Circle) Saturday, May 24, from 9:30 am to 3:30 pm.

For a \$10 registration fee you will get expert information from the American Heart Association, have entertainment, door prizes and a box lunch.

African Americans have more than double the risk of having a brain attack than their white counterparts and are far more likely to die from one.

Warning signs of a brain attack include:

- Weakness in the face, arm or leg on one side of the body
- Sudden trouble seeing, usually in one eye
- Trouble talking or understanding
- Sudden severe headache
- Dizziness or sudden falls

Call 911 and get help immediately.

For information on the May 24 institute call Betty Brown, 202-863-0136. ■

Jefferson Science Fair Winners

Among first place winners in the D.C. Citywide Science Fair were Jefferson Jr. students Rayford Meyers, first place in engineering; and Chad Smith, first place in computers.

At the school level, first-place awards went to: Alison Burnette, botany; Ms. Hung and Ms. Lee, team; Viola Brown, Earth and Space; Shakara Doster; chemistry; Michael Hainsborough, environmental science; Danielle Kelley, physics; Basil Carr, biochemistry; Elijah Huggins, microbiology; Janai Marshall, behavioral and social science; Larry Thompson, mathematics; and Rayford Meyers, engineering.

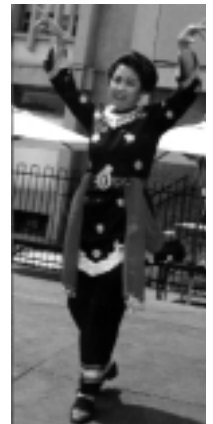
Other city-wide awards went to Norbert Brooks, Rashad Farrow, Marquis Turner, Janai Marshall, Elijah Huggins, Basil Carr, and Danielle Kelley. ■

ESU's International Festival

Colorful costumes, exotic music and dances and delicious food from many lands brought a huge crowd to Southeastern University's 2000 International Festival on grounds adjacent to the University on I (Eye) St. S.W. on May 6.

Shown here are only one of many dancer, a few of the booths and part of the fashion parade.

The slogan for the festival was "Peace It Together At SEU." ■



Black and Blue

By Wallace Babington

A novelty is on stage at Arena's Kreeger Theater: a comedy-drama about a well-to-do middle class family going through trials and tribulations in the 1970s—with a follow-through in the 1990s. What makes this such a novelty is that the family is African American. Rarely do we see a well crafted, intelligent play that centers on issues faced by the modern suburban black family. But we have exactly that in this production of Charles Randolph-Wright's "Blue". This is a coming-of-age story that centers around the younger son of a well established and respected black family in South Carolina. The story told is gentle, warm and touching. But it is also very funny and at time extremely moving.

Arena is fortunate to have a cast of exceptionally talented performers. Phylicia Rashad once again contributes an exciting, funny and realistic portrait of a matriarch in a family going through changing times and challenging crises. She dominates the stage and commands attention at every turn. There is indeed something in this play for everyone. Comedy (Charles Randolph-Wright was once told to write a Neil Simon black comedy). A laugh track could not be more responsive than the audience on opening night. Music: Arnold McCuller as Blue Williams provides the musical background with a voice that penetrates and envelops all available space. It is worth the price of admission just to hear him sing. Drama: There are times of stress and misunderstanding that will be familiar to everyone who has a close, loving family.

There is a lot going on in the play—almost too much. There are main plot lines and sub-plots that keep crossing over each other. This at times results in confusion and bewilderment. You might think that indeed Neil Simon is alive and well in the writing—



Phylicia Rashad drops her role of dominating Mom in the play BLUE to discuss a family problem with her husband, played by Randall Shepperd, and her youngest son, played by Michael Wiggins. Photo by Stan Barouh.

but then again there is a little Arthur Miller and Noel Coward, too. It is easy to accept and understand the actual presence of Blue Williams on stage singing every time his records are played. But there seems to be no need for the simultaneous physical presence of the younger son as both youth and adult. The play really doesn't need gimmicks and tricks—the story can hold its own.

Black theater in Washington is more alive and stronger than at any time in recent memory. Arena has certainly played a significant part in making this possible. Also contributing to this encouraging trend is the recent joint production of "As You Like It" by the African Continuum Theater Company and Washington Shakespeare Company.

"Blue" by Charles Randolph-Wright at Arena Stage in the Kreeger through June 11.

■



With two coaches in back—Ronald Hines, Sr., at left and Wyatt Green, the Club #4 baseball team members are: Kneeling in front (left to right): Robert Davis, James King, Rodney Lawrence, Nate Waldron, Darryl Gillis and Darrell Green. Standing (left to right): Dontee Jones, Antonio Smith, David Gamble, Deonte Laws, Rafor Ferguson, Devin Yeldell, Tyrone Burnette, Gregory Kirkland, George Lindsay, Rico Hines and Michell Miles.

Training Begins For Marine Corps Marathon Race

October is many months away, but runners are gathering early Saturday mornings again this year in the park at 4th and I (Eye) St. S.W. to train for the Marine Corps Marathon. Starting with short 3-mile runs down the sidewalks to the Washington Monument and back, the runners get timed and coached by experienced trainers. ■



Summer Youth Basketball Begins

Six teams opened the summer youth basketball season with games at King-Greenleaf outdoor courts on "Safe Night", Sat., May 6.

Wearing jerseys reading "Southwest Community

House," this year's sponsor, the young hoopsters played sharp, competitive ball.

Pictured below are a few action shots, the six teams, and organizers in white jerseys (left to right): Alvin Hudgens,

director of Police Boys and Girls Club #4, Maxine Williams, SWCH Board member, David Brewer, Board chairman, and Charles Banks, Board member. ■



Lansburg Health Fair Draws Crowds

Food, entertainment and kids' rides helped draw the crowds to Lansburg Park for the Greenleaf Annex/Americaid Health Fair this spring. Blood pressure testing and health leaflets were among the community services. ■



Americaid Poster



Kids sliding at Health Fair



Blood pressure being taken at Health Fair



Clown giving a Face Painting at the Health Fair



Kids waiting to ride twirling whip ride



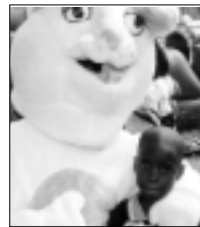
Kids jumping on the Moon Bounce



DJ SHO' NUFF Donald "Disco" Covington mixing it up at the Health Fair 2000.



Tracey Hooks, Greenleaf Annex organizer of the health fair.



The Easter Bunny showing the kids love at the Health Fair 2000.

Workshop On "Near S.E." Plan, May 19-21

The Anacostia Waterfront Initiative will hold the first in a series of public planning sessions on Friday through Sunday, May 19-21, at Van Ness Elementary School, 5th and M St. S.E., a few blocks from the Navy Yard Metro stop.

The area east of South Capitol St. and between the SW/SE Freeway and the Anacostia River is the subject of this weekend's discussions. Later sessions will be scheduled for the south side of the Anacostia River and for the Southwest waterfront.

"Local and national planning professionals" will be involved. "You can participate every day, one day or just one hour," according to a flier. The schedule of meetings is:

Friday, May 19

1:00-1:30 pm—Opening Kick-Off, with Mayor Anthony Williams, Congresswoman Eleanor Holmes Norton and other officials.

1:30-4:30pm—Focus Group Roundtables - housing, environmental concerns, job creation discussions with the Planning Team.

6-8pm—What we learned today - light refreshments and a recap of discussions

Saturday, May 20

9am-12noon—Community Design Workshops - juice and donuts. "Work with the Planning Team to develop conceptual alternatives for revitalization."

4:30-6pm—Presentation of Design Options. With drawings, diagrams and words, see what your ideas might look like.

Sunday, May 21

4:30-6:30pm—Closing Event. The Planning Team will present your plan for final input. ■

ANC Protests Spirit Lines License Renewal

Actions taken at the May 8 meeting of Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2D include:

1. Protesting the renewal of the alcoholic beverage license of Spirit Lines, "in response to continuing neighborhood complaints about noise and tour bus problems connected to the cruises."
2. Supporting the application to the Zoning Commission of Riverside Associates for a two-year extension of their special development rights (PUD) to a parcel at 2nd and Q St. S.W.
3. Asking the Department of Public Works to declare the James Creek/Syphax Gardens/Carrollburg area a truck free zone "(i.e. ban trucks on the streets between Delaware and South Capitol, M on the north, and Q and Potomac on the south.)" ■



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New Computer Training Center At 45 Q St. SW

Did you know there is a new computer training facility in SW? World Cyber Tech at 45 Q St. S.W., second floor, has the latest and greatest equipment and training materials to implement and facilitate their professionally oriented computer training approach to certification in the Information Technology world.

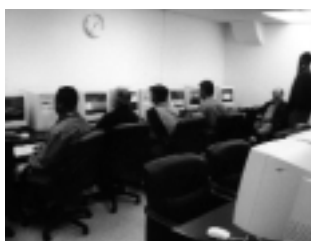
Highly qualified trainers are supported by certified interns who are available to help and assist in the computer lab, which is open a good 11 hours a day or so.

World Cyber Tech's approach to teaching stresses know-how and intensive hands-on training along with a strong theoretical and technical knowledge.

A payment plan is provided making it easy for students to pay their tuition throughout the duration of the courses. Courses provided by World Cyber Tech are not three day in-out cram sessions, but rather 48 hour, multiple week ones that allow more time to deeply cover the course content, finance the study as well as experience the resources that World Cyber Tech has to offer.

Soon these resources will include free e-mail for students as well as additional exposure to the real world challenges of growing a business in e-commerce.

We wish World Cyber Tech and all its students the best of luck and learning. ■



World Cyber Tech ad

Jenny's Pick up 1/2 page ad from May/00